Gijsje Koenderink studied chemistry at Utrecht University (2003). After postdocs at the VU University Amsterdam and Harvard University, she launched the group *Biological Soft Matter*, initially at the NWO Institute AMOLF (2006-2019) and since 2019 at the Bionanoscience Department of TU Delft. Her research is centered around the biomechanical properties of cells and tissues. She uses bottom-up synthetic biology to generate biomimetic models of the cell cytoskeleton and tissue extracellular matrix, and develops quantitative biophysical tools to measure their mechanical properties from the macroscopic down to the molecular scale. Her group has made seminal discoveries regarding the physical principles that underlie the nonlinear and active mechanics of cells and tissues. The fundamental insights from her work provide a better understanding of wound healing, tissue regeneration, and diseases such as cancer, where cell/tissue biomechanics is perturbed. Koenderink is the recipient of the NWO-VIDI (2008), ERC StG (2013), NWO-VICI (2019), and the Pierre-Gilles de Gennes Prize (2018).

Link: https://www.tudelft.nl/en/faculty-of-applied-sciences/about-faculty/departments/bionanoscience/research/research-labs/koenderink-lab/